



PRESS RELEASE- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 15, 2012

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HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT CONFESSES TO KILLING THREE KITTENS WITH BASEBALL BAT

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Hacienda Heights, CA... On March 7, 2012, officers from the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) responded to an animal cruelty complaint in the city of Hacienda Heights regarding the fatal beating of three kittens by a juvenile suspect.

Animal control officers investigating the allegation, which occurred at a single family home on the 15900 block of Leander Dr., stated the report came from a Wilson High School employee where the suspect attends high school. "Apparently the boy confessed to a school staff member that he had killed three kittens earlier in the morning by beating them with a baseball bat and disposing of the bodies in the trash at his home," said Marcia Mayeda, Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC).

DACC officers arrived at the home and evaluated the kittens, checking for signs of life. Unfortunately, the three domestic shorthairs were confirmed dead. They were approximately two weeks old and appeared to be unweaned. The medical reports state the cause of death to be severe fractures to the skull and head trauma.

"Cruelty towards animals is usually a precursor to other human-directed violence later in life. It is crucial to intervene in these types of cases early on to avoid the escalation of violent behavior," Mayeda stated. This case is being referred to the County of Los Angeles District Attorney's office for possible criminal prosecution.

DACC urges the public to call their local animal control agency if animal cruelty is suspected in their neighborhood. For life threatening emergencies to animals, please call 911.



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